

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a filter catalyst, the process comprising:

preparing a coating slurry in which an inorganic oxide powder is dispersed, and coating the coating slurry onto a catalyst-support substrate composed of a porous material having a plurality of cells extending in an axial direction;

removing excess coating slurry from the coated catalyst-support ~~substrate with the coating slurry coated;~~ substrate; and

drying-calcining the coating slurry;

wherein the removing of the excess coating slurry is carried out by performing the following steps repeatedly:

holding one of axial opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate and an other of the axial opposite ends thereof in such a state that a pressure difference is given therebetween; and

holding the one of the axial opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate and the other of the axial opposite ends thereof in an identical pressure state, ~~wherein state,~~ each of the axial opposite ends ~~defines~~ defining at least two openings, the at least two openings being alternately sealed with a sealing ~~material.~~ material,

wherein a porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 1 μ m to 20 μ m is 12.53% to 13.29% and the porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 20 μ m to 70 μ m is 27.11% to 28.03%.

2. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the pressure difference given between both the axial opposite ends of said catalyst-support substrate is 1

KPa or more in the step of holding both the axial opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate in such a state that a pressure difference is given therebetween.

3. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein said inorganic oxide powder dispersed in said coating slurry is such that a 70% particle-diameter value (D70) of a particle-diameter cumulative distribution is 1 μm or less.

4. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a filter catalyst, the process comprising:

preparing a coating slurry in which an inorganic oxide powder is dispersed, and coating the coating slurry onto a catalyst-support substrate composed of a porous material having a plurality of cells extending in an axial direction;

removing excess coating slurry from the coated catalyst-support substrate with the coating slurry coated; and substrate; and

drying-calcining the coating slurry;

wherein the removing of the excess coating slurry is carried out by performing the following steps repeatedly:

holding one of axial opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate to which a first pressure is given and an other of the axial opposite ends thereof to which a higher pressure than the first pressure is given such that a pressure difference is given therebetween;

holding the one of the axial opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate and the other axial opposite ends thereof in an identical pressure state; and

holding the one of the axial opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate to which a second pressure is given and the other axial opposite end thereof to which a lower pressure than the second pressure is given such that a pressure difference is given ~~therebetween~~ therebetween.

wherein a porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 1 μm to 20 μm is 12.53% to 13.29% and the porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 20 μm to 70 μm is 27.11% to 28.03%.